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REVIEW OF THE WEEK.

IT is announced that Mr. JAMES's re-appointment as Postmaster-General is not to be a permanent one, as we assumed last week. He has accepted, it is said, a place at the head of a banking company in New York, and will enter on his duties next January. His continuance in office till that time is merely to carry to completion the prosecution of the Star Route parties. One obstacle to his permanent retention was the purpose of Mr. ARTHUR to give the Treasury to a New Yorker. We do not see that this should be a serious one. New York is twice as large as many States which think themselves important enough to claim representation in the Cabinet. When Mr. GARFIELD consulted a leading Independent with reference to the representation of Pennsylvania, he was answered that, if the State contained any one who was the best man for any of the seven places, then by all means take him; if not, pass the Commonwealth by. This is a wise rule to govern such selections. Whether New York can furnish Mr. ARTHUR with the best man for the Treasury, we cannot say; but we are quite sure that she has the best man for the Post-Office Department, and that no notion as to the distribution of the seven seats in the Cabinet should prevent his retention. By all accounts Pennsylvania is to be passed by in the new deal, unless Mr. CAMERON wants a place. But we can endure it, if all the other selections prove as excellent as this of Mr. JAMES is or would be.

It is very generally reported that Mr. HOWE, of Wisconsin, is to be the new Attorney-General. We cannot think the selection a happy one. We opposed the nomination of Mr. CHANDLER as Solicitor-General on the ground that the foremost legal advisers of the Government should never be men of extreme partisan position, and especially not at the present crisis of our history, when a man in such a place is able to do so much for the perpetuation of sectional bitterness. We think the objection applies with still greater force to Mr. HOWE. He is not less partisan than Mr. CHANDLER. The place to which he is called is one in which partisanship is still more dangerous to the country's best interests. Besides, he has not the legal experience to fit him for the Attorneyship-General. Is the new Cabinet to be made up of lawyers in such offices as the Treasury, and laymen as Attorney-General, and the like?

THE rate at which the prosecution of the Star Route cases is proceeding is far from satisfactory. Even the defendants are taunting the Government with its dilatoriness, and professing to desire a speedy trial of their case, while they, at the same time, interpose dilatory motions of all kinds to prevent what they profess to desire. If matters go on at this rate to the end, these cases will be a bequest, not only from Mr. GARFIELD's Administration to that of Mr. ARTHUR, but from Mr. ARTHUR's to that of his successor in office. It seems that the Government cannot even secure the presence of a legal representative in Washington to watch and thwart the motions made by the counsel for the defence.

The degree of Mr. KEY's responsibility, as Postmaster-General, for these Star Route abuses has been brought into still clearer light by the publication of other papers bearing on the history of the case. It is evident that the essential facts were before the late Postmaster-General at the very beginning of his term of office, and that he was aware of what was going on during the years of his administration. But he neither exposed the evil himself, nor allowed any of his subordinates to do so. The management of the Post-Office is the one great blot on Mr. HAYES's clean administration of the Government. In saying so, we do not forget the abuses connected with the administra-

tion of the Treasury's contingent fund. That was a picayune business in comparison with the Star Route frauds. It is well that both have been exposed by Republican officials inclined to think well and judge leniently of the Administration which preceded them. The speedy punishment of both is one of the first duties of the President now in office.

THE extra session of the Senate opened with a mild squabble in which the Democrats were to blame, and closed with one in which the blame was with the Republicans. If the charges brought against him are well founded, the present postmaster at Lynchburg is a good man to put out of an office, although he was a soldier in the Northern army, and had, until recently, the grace to oppose the Repudiationists. A man who cannot make his accounts square, is not the man for a postmaster. But when, on the eve of an election, his office is vacated to make room for an active political worker on the Repudiation side, we think the Democrats of the Senate are amply justified in insisting "that appointments to office ought not to be made to control or influence elections." That doctrine we regard as eminently sound, whoever may be responsible for it. It is no answer to say that the Democrats did the same thing before 1860, and would do it again if they should get the chance. The notion that government is a great game, in which any advantage taken by one side constitutes a valid precedent for some equivalent rascality on the other, is one which has corrupted our politics and may ruin the country. It may be a good retort to tell a Democrat "You're another." But it is no answer at the bar before which all conduct must be defended in the last resort. It is not the record of the Democratic party, but the conscience of the American people, that furnishes the standard by which this proceeding must vindicate itself. As soon as each party assumes its right to do all the bad things the other has done, we get upon an inclined plane which shelves towards our political ruin. We give all bad precedents a sovereign authority and rob all good ones of their rightful influence.

Since the Senate adjourned without acting on this nomination, Mr. ARTHUR has exercised his Constitutional prerogative by appointing Mr. MAHONE's friend to the postmastership. This will be regarded by some as carrying out Mr. GARFIELD's ideas with reference to Virginia politics. But it is not such in any sense, as those Stalwart leaders know who were urging on him the support of Mr. MAHONE almost up to the day on which he was shot. When Mr. GARFIELD's political correspondence and papers see the light, it will be seen in what sense he used the expression he addressed to the delegation of Virginia Republicans, that he would never do anything to favor Repudiation.

THE trial of GUILTEAU evidently is to be conducted with all the fairness and the dignity which befits the process by which a nation avenges the death of its ruler. His counsel are to be allowed ample time to get up the case, and witnesses for the defence are to be summoned at the public expense. No advantage is to be taken of any technicality against the accused, and our worst enemy will not be able to say that popular passion was allowed to hasten or aggravate the fate of one whose crime has made him an object of universal detestation. It was not so with the trial of those who were charged with complicity in the assassination of Mr. LINCOLN. Mr. JOHNSON and his Judge-Advocate, to say nothing of the military commander of the district, did not show as much consideration for Mrs. SURRETT as is shown for GUILTEAU. But we have grown wiser and calmer since 1865. We have learned to regret the haste and urgency which ill beseeemed a great nation. There are those who would like to see the assassin "railroaded" from the bar to the gallows, as the burglar who broke into the French commissioner's room the other day was "railroaded" to the penitentiary. But the better

judgment of the people is in favor of deliberation.

The defence of GUILTEAU will turn upon the question of insanity and responsibility. That he is quite sane, nobody believes. That he is insane to the point of irresponsibility, and should be remanded to an asylum, is the opinion of very few. His own confessions, while far from trustworthy on many points, are sufficient to establish his responsibility for the deed he committed. Insanity, like that in which poor MARY LAMB killed her mother, is a widely different thing from the collected, deliberate devilry which led this man to follow his victim through the streets, to calculate the best means of reaching him with a bullet, to refrain from shooting in Mrs. GARFIELD'S presence, and to foresee and guard against the popular indignation his deed would provoke. The mere yielding to a supposed prompting from a supernatural source constitutes no defence in the eye of the law. On the contrary, the old form of indictment for murder alleges that the criminal was "instigated by Satan" to his act; and this form is still retained in some, at least, of our States. That GUILTEAU mistook Satan for God, the destroyer for the preserver, is no plea for his escape.

THE failure of the Mechanics' National Bank of Newark, N. J., through the embezzlement of its funds to the extent of two millions by its cashier, has produced a very painful impression, and has caused a general inquiry into the character and worth of the Government inspection of such institutions. The first thing to be noticed is that the cashier was able to go on for years lending the bank's money to an insolvent concern, without either the Government examiners or the bank authorities detecting the fact. He hoodwinked the former by false statements whose accuracy might have been tested in an hour, but they looked no farther. The latter seem to have caused him no trouble. There was a president and a board of directors, but he did the work of both, after a very ruinous fashion. This is not unusual with American banks, and especially with those which are located in the country towns. Those who have dealings with these establishments frequently find that the cashier is the dictator of the concern. The president is often some old gentleman who lives two or three miles off, and who is thought to attract rural custom by the weight of his name. The directors are local business men who know little of the theory and practice of banking, and would think it presumptuous to question the methods of the cashier. The solvency of the establishment depends on one man's honesty and soundness of judgment, while the public believe that it is guaranteed by that of a dozen men of business experience and capacity. In the Newark case, both president and directors were men quite competent to sit in judgment on any transaction, but they, too, seem to have slipped into the fashion of leaving everything to an official they trusted. The fact that the Government examiners were satisfied, seems to have been enough for them, as well as for the public; and the largest bank in the Commonwealth has died of the neglect of men upon whom the public relied for its good management. The responsibility of the failure does not rest on the cashier alone. He was evidently unfitted for the place by some of his mental qualities. Having made one false step in advancing money to the NUGENTS in an irregular way, his sensitiveness enabled them to bully him into repeating the fault, lest they should expose him. His story of the process is strange, but quite intelligible, and suffices to show that no man, however honest he may be for himself, ought to be trusted with such power over the money of a bank. He may have some intellectual loose screw which will put him into the power of the first rogue who discovers it.

A CONVENTION of national importance was that held at St. Louis on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday of last week, to consider propositions for the systematic improvement of the Mississippi River and its many tributaries. The call was originated by the Merchants' Exchange of St. Louis; it invited delegates to be appointed by the Governors of each State and Territory within the Mississippi Valley, and other delegates from boards of trade and similar organizations. Detailed reports in the St. Louis newspapers make it appear that there was a large attendance of representative men from many of the States, though the greater proportionate representation was from Missouri. The chief question in the convention was whether a demand upon Congress for

money for the improvement of the Mississippi should be coupled with other demands for the development of various canals connecting the Upper Mississippi with the Lakes. A long series of resolutions were adopted on Thursday, in which the former scheme only was included, except that a sop was thrown to the other projects of improvement by a general expression, including with the Mississippi "all its navigable tributaries." On the closing day, however, the advocates of transportation eastward to the Lakes rallied, and it was decided to pass a resolution declaring that "in the interest of cheap transportation, and to afford a choice of water-routes to the seaboard," connections between the navigable waters of the Upper Mississippi River and the Great Lakes are highly important, and should not be overlooked by Congress. These proceedings were important, because they represent the earnest demands of what is now the greatest section, in population and political and commercial influence, of the Union; and they were interesting because the addresses and debates formulated many practical views and presented many essential facts relating to the great States of the interior. The convention provided for the appointment of a committee of twenty-one to prepare a memorial to Congress and otherwise urge upon that body and the people the conclusions it had adopted. Included in the proceedings on Friday was the reading of a letter of regret from Secretary BLAINE, who said in it that "the measure which you assemble to consider is one of great national importance, and is entitled to prompt and favorable consideration by Congress."

THE subjects presented by this convention at St. Louis may as well receive the prompt attention of all who are concerned in the commercial prosperity of the country, for they will require consideration and action at the hands of Congress, and they involve interests of the greatest magnitude, concerning every dweller east of the Rocky Mountains. The people of the Mississippi drainage-basin, by the census of 1880, were 43.5 per cent. of the whole number in the Union, and their increase is far more rapid, comparatively, than that of any other section. That basin includes, according to Professor VON STEINWEHR, 1,683,303 square miles, while all the other drainage-basins together aggregate but 1,344,000 square miles. A subject in which this powerful section is deeply concerned cannot fail to command ultimate attention and action. In his letter accepting the nomination for President, General GARFIELD declared, in reference to the Mississippi River, that "it is a subject of such vital importance to so many millions of people, that the safety of its navigation requires exceptional consideration." A plan of action, and a systematic one, will be needful. In a letter to the St. Louis convention, Senator RANDALL GIBSON, of Louisiana, said:

"All the ports of this great river are closely connected; like the members of a living organism, they are mutually interdependent. The work that might confer great advantages at one point might inflict intolerable injury to another. The effort to remove the shallow waters or sand-bar that causes them at Providence, will merely transfer them to a point lower down, flooding the country below in seasons of high water and presenting the same obstacles when the river is low, unless the plan be so comprehensive as to include the lower as well as the higher section of the river. Every improvement of the tributaries, every channel deepened, every furrow made and farm drained, concentrates all the more rapidly the river-fall of the vast region extending from the Alleghany to the Rocky Mountains, and precipitates it into the great basin from Cairo to the Gulf. The report of the commission shows that this vast basin, overspreading its banks owing to these causes, is gradually but surely filling up, having increased in width about seventy per cent. since the first survey, and growing more shallow year by year, until, as the lamented GARFIELD said in his letter of acceptance, it has become a 'terror' to the people living upon its banks, and the navigation more hazardous and expensive, and its trade commerce more and more insecure."

THE English dispatches point with some exultation to the immense amount of business pending in the land courts created by the Irish Land Act, as a proof of the success of that measure. It is quite true that there have been many applications for decision as to a fair rent, especially in Ulster, where the Land League has little influence. But, after all, the aggregate of applications amounts to but something between two and three per cent. of the Irish tenantry. Indeed, one of the rank absurdities of the bill is that it creates some half dozen courts to decide half a million of law-suits. If even no more than a very small

percentage make use of the Law, the courts will find themselves quite unequal to getting through all the cases which will be brought before them, and if a majority should apply the work will never be done.

The figures thus far neither prove nor disprove the failure of Mr. PARNELL's "No Rent" manifesto. We infer its failure from more general considerations than these statistics of business in the courts

KAIRWAN has fallen to the French without a struggle. Its defenders evacuated it and withdrew to the mountains to await fresh opportunities of being troublesome. We have no doubt that the character of the neighborhood of their holy city forced this change of base on the Arabs. When Kairwan was built, it was the centre of a fertile and well-watered plain. Moslem tillage and taxation have ruined the land, and the destruction of trees has destroyed the springs. There is not one well within the city limits, and but one in its suburbs. The adjacent country is nearly as dry as the Sahara, the salt marshes towards the coast being the only alleviation of the general humidity. Such a place admits of no prolonged defence; so the Arabs withdrew, but it must have been with heavy hearts. The city was built in the first and heroic age of ISLAM. No "infidel" host had ever approached its walls before. In its mosques hung the trophies won from the Crusaders who invaded Tunis under ST. LOUIS of France and Prince EDWARD of England. Its tombs of great Moslem saints rival the mosques in beauty and in sanctity. And all this had to be left the Franks without striking a blow.

THE special memorial service in Berlin in honor of President GARFIELD, at which Professor GNEIST was the orator of the day, ought to have the effect of soothing the susceptibilities of our adopted citizens of German birth. For some time, there was a general complaint on their part that the German Government was both cold and reserved, to the point of neglect, in the expression of grief and sympathy. The truth was that it had done everything which could reasonably be expected of it. And yet the complaint was not unnatural. The German element of our population are jealous of anything which may be construed as meaning that American relations to Germany are not as close as those of any other country. They do not wish to be regarded as having left their own country to cast in their lot with a nation of purely English character and extraction. They do not see why England should feel more keen sympathy with our national calamity and should express it more amply than Germany. This jealousy as to their position found expression in the splendid receptions they accorded to the members of the STEUBEN family before, during and after the Yorktown celebration. The STEUBENS were private guests; they represented no country officially. Yet they were made to eclipse the representatives of that nation whose troops and fleet forced the surrender at Yorktown. It is not at all wonderful that the French commissioners were hurt by these displays.

MR. EDWARD A. FREEMAN, the historian, in the course of lectures he is delivering in Boston, runs to the other extreme. In his view, we are simply a nation of Englishmen who have established an English nationality in the New World, and are engaged in the great work of Anglicizing the millions of Continental Europe who flock to our shores. It is not unnatural for Mr. FREEMAN to make this mistake while surrounded by the descendants of the original settlers of New England and finding English names and family traditions everywhere cherished. But Mr. FREEMAN must not judge America from New England. Even in Massachusetts, a closer examination would have shown him that the old East-Anglian stock is rapidly displaced by the Irish-Celtic and Canadian-French elements. In other parts of the country, he would find that there are whole Commonwealths with not five per cent. of persons of English descent in their population. The old German and Scotch-Irish stocks in Pennsylvania, for instance, are not English in any sense. Philadelphia and the adjacent districts contain all the English element of the population, and even in these it is outnumbered by the newer comers. We owe more to England than to any other country. Our history is in some sense a continuation of English history before the restoration of the STUARTS. But we are not an English nation,—least of all, such in the sense which the word has come to bear

under the rule of the House of Hanover. Our national character is one largely modified by other elements in an un-English direction.

THE Boers have accepted the settlement with England; ABD-UR-RAHMAN Khan is in possession of Herat, and the intrigues of the MANTCHU party in China against LI-HUNG-CHANG have come to naught. These three bits of news from the far East should lighten the hearts of the friends of peace. The first means that Mr. GLADSTONE's magnanimity towards the Transvaal Republic has not been defeated by the obstinacy of extremists; the second, that his concession of peace and independence to Afghanistan is a success; the third, that China is not to embroil all Central Asia by a war with Russia.

THE GERMAN ELECTIONS.

THIS is not an "off" year in Germany. Like most European countries, the Fatherland holds its elections at long intervals, and chooses only its Legislature by a popular vote. As a consequence, political duties make but a slight draft on the time and the attention of its people. No one can excuse himself from voting by the plea that politics cost too much in the absorption of time. Our own system goes to the other extreme. It lays on the voter duties which exceed his capacity for their right discharge. The New York merchant who refused to help to suppress Mr. TWEED's rule, because he could make more money in the time it would require than his misgovernors would rob him of, was but an extreme instance of a political lassitude and indifference which we all feel, more or less. It is on these feelings that the politician bases his power. What the people cannot find time to do, he will gladly do for them. He will make up the ticket, elect it, arrange all the appointments, without causing the dear people any trouble, save to vote, and often not even that.

In Germany, the elections are fewer, and partly from this cause the political drill of the people is less perfect. There is no division upon really great lines of policy, but a series of subdivisions, each too weak to obtain anything like a majority. The instinct which masses men in great parties is wanting, even more than in France. The politics of the country are in the condition to which England is tending, with its third, fourth and fifth parties, each in the way of the old crystallization into Whigs and Tories simply.

In Germany, the central party is that of the Roman Catholics. It is strongest in Bavaria and parts of Rhenish Prussia. The Catholics of Germany have not organized themselves into a party of their own motion. They have been forced to this step by the unfriendly policy of the Government. The war upon the Catholic Church of Germany began in 1837, with the arrest of the Archbishop of Köln. It culminated in the FALK Laws, after the establishment of German unity. Those laws were the work of the Liberal party, which then had almost a majority. It is inexplicable how Prince BISMARCK and the Emperor, two men of religious and conservative instincts, were ever led to give their sanction to the wretched system of persecution which those laws began. Under their action, there are a score of German bishoprics vacant, and thousands of parishes have had no priests and no religious offices for years past. It was the enthusiasm for the Old Catholic revolt which began this anti-Catholic "war of culture." It was the discovery of the dangers to order from the Socialists which caused the Emperor and the Chancellor to retrace their steps. With the re-establishment of a genuine toleration, the Centre party will melt away, most of its members joining the Conservatives.

The Conservatives are, of course, the party of the Right. Prince BISMARCK originally was of their party. In the unhappy days of the reaction which followed the fiasco of 1848, they governed Prussia and nearly all of North Germany. In Herr STAHL, the converted Jew, they possessed the most brilliant parliamentary leader

in Germany. So far as the language would permit, STAHL was a really eloquent as well as a learned man. In those days, the *junkers* labored to crush all religious and political dissent. They proscribed Father ARNDT. They closed Dr. RUPP's Free Church in Koenigsberg. They ran their theories of the State out to a mediæval absolutism, and coquetted with Roman ideas and practices in religion. They upheld BISMARCK in his policy of governing and levying taxes in spite of the Parliament. But their power came to an end when absolutism was found no longer possible, and the Government had to throw itself upon the people in the great crises of recent German history. They still support BISMARCK, who despises them, but they will never rule Germany again.

Their great rivals are the National Liberal party, which form the legitimate Left in the *Reichstag*. For a time, especially while passing and enforcing the FALK Laws, they were BISMARCK's party pre-eminently. They quarrelled with him, however, over the tariff legislation, and quarrelled among themselves at the same time. One part of the National Liberals insisted that, while BISMARCK was wrong in matters of economic policy, yet he was indispensable to Germany. They would oppose him still, but only in a mild, Pickwickian way which did not mean any harm. They would even accept his tariff as a *fait accompli*, and treat all further discussion of it as a matter outside practical politics. The other faction of the party, stigmatized as Secessionists, declared their purpose to wage a relentless war on all the new developments of his policy. It is this party which has made the largest gain in the recent elections. In this they had the unconscious co-operation both of the Chancellor and of the Conservative press. Herr BISMARCK's proposals to make the tobacco business a Government monopoly, and to establish a universal and compulsory insurance of the working classes, gave great help to his enemies. He was not able to carry those plans through the last *Reichstag*. He looked for an increased majority to enable him to carry them through the one just elected. The Conservative newspapers were so confident of this that they assumed the most insolent tone toward the Liberals. They loaded their editorials with personal abuse. Unable to defend or even to explain the Chancellor's new measures, they assailed as traitors all who refused to accept them without either defence or explanation. As a consequence, there has been a great reaction against this insolence, and men voted for pronounced Liberals in behalf of their own self-respect. To the Liberals thus sundered into two wings, the Progressists sustain the same relation as do the English Radicals to the Liberals. They are the Liberal Left, while the Secessionists are the Liberal Centre.

The Democratic Socialists have been far worse treated than the Liberals. The laws against them are so strict that there can have been no public conduct of a campaign for the election of their candidates. They must have done their canvassing secretly. But they have made large gains, and the growth of their aggregate vote will prove probably much greater than that of their representatives. To drive a popular movement from public to secret channels, as Mr. GLADSTONE and Mr. FORSTER will discover, is not to break its force. That can be done only by removing the cause of discontent. The root of the Socialist movement in Germany is in the military system. A country in which the soldier is never out of sight, which lays heavy burdens of taxation on all classes for the support of an immense army, and which immures its whole population in barracks for three of the best years of their lives, must be a country of fierce discontent. Not repression of opinion, but a general disarmament, is the remedy.

Besides these four great parties, there are small fragments of irreconcilables who, taken together, correspond to the Irish Home Rulers in the British Parliament. These are delegates from Posen, Sleswig, Alsace and Lorraine, whose election is the expression of popular dissatisfaction with the retention of those countries as part

of the German Empire. Germany is happier than England, in that her Ireland is not all in one piece. Its four sections are more easily manageable. Besides these, there are a few particularists from the smaller German States which were absorbed in 1857, and who are dissatisfied with the way in which the new Empire was created. While Professor EWALD lived, this small faction had a stirring leader. Few living men possessed such grand capacities for scolding. The annual *auto da fe* of all works on Biblical criticism—except his own and Dean STANLEY'S,—in his *Fahrbücher*, was even surpassed by his speeches and pamphlets which followed the annexation of Hanover. They are curiosities of political literature, and not the less remarkable as prompted by loyalty to the dynasty which, in his earlier years, drove him and four of his colleagues from the University of Göttingen.

Such are the subdivisions of the German *Reichstag*. In that just superseded by the new elections, the Right and the Centre had a working majority. This they have now lost, but no other two parties, except the Liberals and the Socialists, have gained it. No Ministry which depended on having a majority could hold office for a week. The National Liberals may get rid of their internal divisions, but they hardly can come to terms with the Socialists. A large number of them will not coalesce with the Socialists against BISMARCK, and the rest must fear the consequences at the next election of such a coalition. Prince BISMARCK, happily for himself, does not need a majority any more than does an American President. He can get on without one, and has done so before to-day. But it is a misfortune for Germany that her political condition is so unfavorable to the formation of great parties able to rule the country in a parliamentary way.

WEEKLY NOTES.

THE international copyright treaty proposed by the Messrs. HARPER is assailed on both the front and the rear. At home, the Protectionists demand such an alteration as will secure that the type-setting of an American edition, as well as the press-work, shall be done on our soil. In England, the authors complain of the limit of three months after publication in England, within which they must secure a publisher in America or forfeit American copyright; and the publishers want a treaty which shall give them the exclusive right to supply the American market with the books whose British copyright they own. In fine, there seems no likelihood that the treaty can be adopted by either country, and the agitation of the subject is likely to prove once more fruitless. Far better than a treaty, we think, would be a law conferring copyright on foreign authors who have a *bona fide* edition of their books made on our soil within three (or six,) months after publication elsewhere, with or without a provision limiting this advantage to citizens of a nation which confers equal—not necessarily identical,—rights on American authors. The limit of three months is not so short as some English letter-writers would have us believe. In addition to the statute-term, they have for their negotiations the period which must elapse between the time when their book is far enough advanced to be offered to an American publisher, and the actual date of its appearance. A great many of them already manage to make their bargain with the American publisher before its publication in England. The law would enlarge this period, already found sufficient, by three or six months. Almost any book which is worthy of republication will have won its reputation long before that time has elapsed, and the American publisher will have learned whether it is worth his while to take it up.

ELEVEN States will hold elections next Tuesday. It may be said with perfect truthfulness that the political situation presented in them is of a very unusual character. The lines of the two great parties are in several instances scarcely traceable. In others there is but the ghost of any active effort or general interest. In all there is a remarkable absence of earnest controversy over any national question. The eleven States, and the officers they are to choose, are, in brief, as follows: Colorado, judicial and county officers, with a vote upon the location of

the State capital; Maryland, a State Comptroller, half the Senate, and a full House of Delegates; Massachusetts, a Governor, with other State officers, and Legislature; Minnesota, a Governor and other State officers, with a vote upon three proposed Constitutional amendments; Mississippi, a Governor, other State officers, and Legislature; Nebraska, a judge of the Supreme Court, regents of the State University, and a vote upon a woman suffrage amendment to the Constitution; New Jersey, part of the Senate and a full House of Representatives; New York, six State officers, a full Legislature, and four Members of Congress to fill vacancies (in place of FERNANDO WOOD, deceased; LEVI P. MORTON, Minister to France; and WARNER MILLER and E. G. LAPHAM, elected United States Senators); Pennsylvania, a State Treasurer and county officers; Virginia, a Governor, other State officers, and full Legislature; Wisconsin, a Governor, other State officers, half the Senate, and full House of Representatives.

THE absence of excitement in these elections is in part accounted for by their lack of great importance; partly, also, by the fact that the year following the Presidential election is usually rather slack in partisan zeal; and in a greater degree than either by the deadening effect on political extremism exercised by the summer's anxieties and catastrophe. But, besides, the time has come when party shapes have to be somewhat remoulded. Many voters are without excitement because they see no occasion for being excited; they are studying the situation with the purpose of adopting new methods, of forming new relations, of joining in new organizations, for the purpose of effecting a better and more satisfactory ultimate result. There may be no general and revolutionary recasting of parties at present, but there will be essential changes in their character, and these are indicated in the present wide-spread disposition of voters to "whoop up" whatever may have a party label.

MOST heated of all the eleven elections is that in Virginia. So furious a contest is seldom seen. Without going into the merits of the questions at issue, it may be said that the present outlook is that MAHONE's following will, undoubtedly, secure a majority of the Legislature in both branches, and probably will elect their candidate for Governor. The straight-out Republicans, under the influence, chiefly, of the change in the Presidency, have drifted rapidly off into the MAHONE camp, thus very completely justifying the averment that the roots of their party earnestness have lain in the fat soil of the Federal patronage. With these recruits MAHONE's success becomes tolerably well assured, and the future of Virginia apparently lies in his hands and those of Messrs. CAMERON, RIDDLEBERGER, LEWIS, and their associates. If they win, we shall see whether they will do worse with the State debt than the Old Line Democrats have done. As to the other States, most of their elections are devoid of interest. Maryland's canvass is all one-sided, in the direction of Democracy, while the Republicans equally command everything in Colorado, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Nebraska, and Wisconsin. New York is in doubt. New Jersey's election is of little outside importance, except that the eight Senators to be chosen will hold long enough to help elect the successor of Mr. McPHERSON in the United States Senate. In Mississippi, the election returns will be in control of the men now in power, and they propose to stay in. The opposition to the Democracy have fully discovered this, and apparently do not delude themselves with the hope of success.

IN Pennsylvania, the canvass has been one without precedent, very interesting as a political study, and calculated, beyond doubt, to exert a great influence over the future course of affairs in the State. There have been two features of note—the decided manifestation of independence amongst Republican voters, taking form in their determination to vote for Mr. WOLFE for State Treasurer, and a corresponding independence, but more general weakness and party demoralization, among the Democrats. Mr. WOLFE's canvass has been something phenomenal. Old school politicians, who thought it impossible for any one to get votes without the endorsement of a "regular" nomination in a convention, have stood aghast at the spectacle of a self-named candidate stirring the State from end to end, and capturing not less than fifty thousand votes out of the two great parties. They are

surprised, and well they may be, because few of them have ever comprehended the philosophy that underlies such a proceeding. What Mr. WOLFE is apparently doing himself is in reality the response to his appeal of a great number of citizens who believe it best to manifest the courage of their convictions by an independent vote. The time had ripened to such action. The people were moving. A great many find room to criticise Mr. WOLFE,—especially for such evasion of a plain public duty as his "dodging" the vote on the Graveyard Insurance Bill,—and many others are not at all committed to the support of all his measures or the endorsement of all his plans. But, upon the whole, they believe that good may be done by casting their votes for one who defies "machines" and challenges "bosses" to trial. This they conceive to be desirable, and probably needful, if there is to be any breadth, manliness or conscience in the future politics of the State of Pennsylvania. Mr. WOLFE dares to take the field and carry the flag. He is probably the only Republican in the State of Pennsylvania whose prominence and past services would make his candidacy of any importance, that would have ventured upon so bold a step. Those who give him their support do so, therefore, as but a fair and just recognition of the service which he renders to the State. If he shall have fifty thousand votes or over, as now appears to be certain,—nobody, we believe, estimates his number under forty thousand,—it will be a triumphant vindication of his candidacy, for it will prove that the people were ready for such a step. Whether the diversion from the Republican party will defeat General BAILY, we esteem doubtful, for the simple reason that the Democratic line, in many places, is so broken and scattered as to be scarcely alive at all. Trading votes is in progress in this city and elsewhere in the State, and, while many Democrats show their manliness by a vote for WOLFE, many others exhibit their venality by selling out and voting for General BAILY. In such confusion, the latter may be elected, notwithstanding a heavy vote for WOLFE.

THE purchase of Confederate bonds appears to go on, though the explanation why anyone should consider them worth paying good money for is still unsupplied. Dispatches from Washington had settled it that the movement was, as heretofore stated, set going by a theory that the large deposit remaining in the Bank of England to the credit of the "Confederate States of America" may be secured upon presentation of the bonds; but the bottom of this is knocked at, if not knocked out, by the flat-footed averment in the *Pall Mall Gazette*, on Wednesday afternoon, thus-wise:

"There is no truth whatever in the statement that there is a large amount of money in the Bank of England which was deposited to the credit of the Confederate Government, and is available for the payment of Confederate bonds. We believe it does not hold a single penny, and doubt whether there is any such money in any bank in this country. The whole story is a gross fabrication, and fitting product of a speculation that has no substantial foundation."

This seems explicit enough, and is probably "by authority" from the Governors of the Bank. It is most precise, however, upon the point that there is no money available "for the payment of Confederate bonds;" it does not say that there is not a fund deposited by some person or persons who were agents for the "Confederacy." These persons may have deposited in another way than for the Confederate Government, and this point the denial of the *Gazette* does not exactly cover. The sales have been going on about as rapidly as ever. The *London Standard* of the 26th ultimo estimates the aggregate value that had changed hands in the preceding three days at £10,000,000, a single firm having disposed of £4,000,000. On Saturday evening, New York brokers telegraphed South to cease buying, but on Monday, in Augusta and other cities, fresh orders were received, and the market was again brisk at advanced rates, large purchases being made at from \$4 to \$13 per thousand,—a rise in prices. One gentleman in Augusta received a lot of \$40,000, which had never been opened from the day they were originally purchased, and were as bright and new as the day they were printed, without a coupon off. In Charleston, on Saturday, the "boom" was so strong that the total sales were about \$600,000, one bank selling \$500,000 at \$10 and \$12.

LADY BECTIVE, who has come to the fore to promote the wearing of English woollens, is the only daughter of a former Marquis of DEVON-

SHIRE. She is a handsome, aristocratic-looking woman of thirty. Her husband, eldest son of the Marquis of HERTFORD, (Irish,) inherited vast property from her maternal grandfather, a London alderman, who bought great estates in the North of England. Hitherto, Lady BECTIVE has only been a leader in fast fashionable society. A new cloth lately produced at Bradford is called by her name.

THERE is no change in the character of the statement sent out by the Treasury Department in relation to the national debt. The revenues continue enormous,—both the internal revenue and the customs receipts, being greatly in excess of the estimates submitted by Mr. SHERMAN to Congress,—and the reduction of debt for the month of October is amongst the largest ever recorded. The interest-bearing debt is now (November 1st,) stated as follows:

Bonds at 6 per cent. continued at $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., . . .	\$161,876,050.00
Bonds at 5 per cent. continued at $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., . . .	401,504,900.00
Bonds at $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.,	250,000,000.00
Bonds at 4 per cent.,	738,749,750.00
Refunding certificates,	598,050.00
Navy pension fund,	14,000,000.00
Total,	\$1,566,728,750.00

Comparing this with the statement of October 1st, which showed \$1,593,102,250 principal debt, it will be seen that the actual reduction of principal in the month was \$26,373,500. By the ordinary form of making the statement, however, showing the "debt, less cash in the treasury," the net reduction of the month was \$13,321,458.87. Taking the latter figures as the best for the purpose of such observation, it will be seen that we are advancing in the payment of the debt at the rate of one hundred and sixty millions per annum. Or, if we take the experience of the four months of the present fiscal year, we are doing more than that. Since July 1st, the debt has been diminished \$55,064,345.08, or at the rate of one hundred and sixty-five millions a year.

THESE figures tell their own story. They may readily be applied to the items in the statement of the interest-bearing debt. In less than twelve months, the continued six per cents. will be paid. In a little more than thirty-six months, the continued five per cents. will be paid. That is to say, that, by the autumn of 1884, there will be no debt payable, the nearest bonds then being the four and one-half per cents. of 1891, whose payment will be seven full years distant,—unless the Secretary is to go into the market and buy them at a premium.

THE approach of the time fixed for holding a tariff convention seems to heighten the excitement among our Free Trade friends. *The Times* of New York, always given to strong speech in this connection, except when it is helping to elect a Protectionist to the Presidency, grows manifestly feverish on this issue, and discovers the most wonderful mare's-nests, of arguments for Free Trade. It has just discovered that the American farmer is to be crushed by his Canadian competitor, because the latter is to have a railroad built to the seaboard with rails admitted free of duty, which *The Times* believes will make a difference of \$3000 a mile in the cost of that road, and will enable it to take Manitoba wheat to the seaboard at far lower rates than our farmers can command. If it will take a look at the region this Canadian road must traverse before it reaches Winnipeg, it will find reason for the conviction that our trunk roads will not lose much by its competition. The truth is that, without this concession of rails free from duty, the road could not have been built at all. Canada is Protectionist as well as America. She did not throw off those duties on rails with a view to making transportation cheaper, but because otherwise she could not retain it and induce the syndicate to build the road. She has not been throwing money away in railroad speculations. She has had to pay an immense sum, and give large grants of land, as well as remit duties, before anyone would touch her Pacific railroad.

Of course, we suppose *The Times* draws the moral that, for the sake of the American farmer, there should be no duty on steel rails. That would be a very dubious benefit to the American farmer. As a rule, he consumes, in food and in seed, sixty per cent. of his grain crop on his farm.

For the other forty he must find a market. His export ranges between five and ten per cent., say the statisticians. He must sell from thirty-five to forty per cent. at home. At present, he finds this market in the manufacturing classes. His interest cannot lie in any policy which checks the growth of those classes, much less reduces their number. At present, the tariff gives him the monopoly of this market by shutting out the Canadian farmer from it. Should *The Times* succeed in the policy it advocates, that restriction will disappear with all the rest. The farmer will have cheap rails, enabling him to reduce the cost of transporting wheat by some infinitesimal fraction of a cent per bushel. He will have foreign custom for something less than ten per cent. of his crop. He will have domestic custom for, perhaps, another ten per cent. He will have twenty per cent. for which there will be no buyers. Happy farmer!

MR. WINDOM publishes an account of a conversation he had with Mr. GARFIELD with reference to the reform of the civil service. He had planned a distribution of the Treasury clerkships and the like among the several States in proportion to population. In each State he would establish an examining board, to whom all applicants for office should be referred. From these boards he would receive lists of those applicants who had passed an examination,—not a competitive but a pass examination, we understand. From these lists he would take names as often as vacancies occurred in the clerical representation of any State. The plan has some merits, but the usual defect of being devised from a purely Washington point of view. The object of a reformation of the civil service is not the relief of the President and of Congress from the pressure of applicants; nor is it to secure a more honest and efficient administration of the public service than at present. It is to take the politics of the country out of the control of the politicians, and to give the private citizen a chance. We do not see that Mr. WINDOM's plan brings us a step nearer to this result.

As to Mr. GARFIELD's approval of the plan, we do not lay much stress on what he may have said in an interview with even a Cabinet officer. Mr. GARFIELD evidently was feeling his way to a remedy for an evil which is as complex as it is extensive. He was making up his mind slowly, as he always did on such matters. What would have been the final outcome of his thinking, no one can now say. He evidently welcomed every suggestion as a new contribution to a final solution. As such, he may have regarded Mr. WINDOM's proposals, and may have expressed great satisfaction with the plan, as far as it went, without at all accepting it as what it is not,—an adequate solution of the problem of Civil Service Reform.

THE NEW ADMINISTRATION.

WASHINGTON, November 1.

THE Administration of President Arthur can hardly be said to have started. It has begun, it is in authority, but it has not yet decisively indicated its quality and purposes. Thus far it has been negative rather than positive; has drifted along, doing only what it could not avoid doing, rather than attempting to direct affairs and shape a policy. The nation does not yet know what to think of it, for the reason that it has not yet given sufficient grounds for an opinion. The circumstances of the President's coming to the office were such as would make any fit man cautious in asserting his individual motives and objects; but there is a limit to caution in this respect, and to surpass that limit savors of weakness as much as premature self-assertion would savor of rashness.

Undoubtedly, there would have been general dissatisfaction if the President had proceeded immediately to reconstruct his Cabinet; but it is now more than six weeks since General Garfield died, and what is the case? There is an universal understanding that the President means to have new advisers in the Cabinet councils. The favorable opportunity presented by a special session of the Senate has passed, and he has not selected the men upon whom he will rely to carry out his own ideas of administration, but is keeping in office men whom he does not mean to have associated with him when he gets ready to develop his own policy. Of course, the Cabinet that lingers, knowing that it is only a makeshift, serving the President's convenience rather than representing his purposes, will have neither confidence nor disposition to do more than to attend to routine business. It is just, therefore, to say that this Administration has not fairly started. The Garfield "machine" is running on from the impulse he gave it; but the motor no longer supplies new power. The impulse given will be allowed to exhaust itself, when this machinery will be removed and a new lot substituted to accomplish other purposes, or, at all events, to accomplish its work by other means.

It is a mistake to suppose that the public sentiment of the party, emphatically manifested in the general expression of a hope that the new President would not rudely undo the work of his predecessor, or set up a different policy, will be appeased by keeping in office temporarily the men who had President Garfield's confidence. It was not to men but to motives and methods that this sentiment had reference. People acquainted with affairs and the conditions of Administrative work, knew well enough that the new President must select his own counsellors and agents. The thing desired was that he should be inspired with a spirit and purpose like Garfield's. If he wanted to keep near him the same men, not because they were in Garfield's Cabinet, but because he wished them, and wanted their co-operation in his own plans, that would have been a very satisfactory guarantee of his disposition; but to keep them a few weeks or months, with the full knowledge on their part and on the part of the country that it is for convenience only, and until the intense sympathetic feeling excited by Garfield's suffering and death is somewhat calmed, deceives no one.

If the President desires to keep Garfield's Cabinet, or any members of it, as his Cabinet, it is time he had said so. If he intends to dispense with their services in whole or in part, it is time he had done it, and selected the men whom he will acknowledge and confide in as his associates in administration. Of course, if any of those in office have solicited as a favor that they may remain in their places a short time longer, he may, perhaps, be excused for showing some consideration to them on account of the sudden misfortune that has happened to their ambition and prospects; but that is no reason why he should not relieve those whose circumstances permit them to retire at once, and who have asked to be relieved. The present condition of things with regard to the Cabinet is an assurance of nothing, and signifies nothing with regard to the President's plans. It is merely prolonging for three months a condition which, since it is to end, might better have been ended in one month. That it continues is not an evidence of the President's strength or of his wisdom. It constitutes a profitless interregnum, during which nothing of any importance will be done or attempted. It will be filled with idleness and vain conjecturing about what will happen, perhaps with intrigue and dicking.

Almost all of the appointments made during the extra session were of one or two classes, the first comprising army and navy promotions in regular order, the second comprising appointments made by President Garfield during the recess, which had not been acted on by the Senate. This second class was a somewhat numerous one, and it is creditable to the President that, while many of them were such as nobody can suppose he would have made himself in the first instance,—and some of them were notoriously in the political interest of men and forces with which he has no sympathy, and whose strength he cannot wish to increase,—he made no attempt to frustrate the intentions of his predecessor, but, on the contrary, willingly aided in consummating them. The very few original and independent appointments were not of a character to excite surprise, nor were they specially significant. The most important were the two nominations for Secretary of the Treasury, of which it is to be said that, while both were of New York men, and men identified in political attachments with the fortunes of the "ring" of the party of which the President had been an active manager, the appointees were not offensively embroiled in any recent quarrels and were men of high character and great ability. One of them had, it is known, been offered a place in General Garfield's Cabinet. That he is to be Secretary of the Treasury under President Arthur tends to promote confidence that the department will be managed on principles of sound finance. It is known that President Garfield, after much consideration, made up his mind that the Treasury Department ought not to be under the control of a New York man. He feared the influence of Wall Street over its operations. But there really is no reason for supposing Wall Street will necessarily have too much influence over a New York Secretary. It depends on the man. What President Garfield feared and thought he would prevent by appointing a Western man, was the thing that came to pass. The wishes of the Eastern money-dealers have never been more consulted and more deferred to by any Secretary than they have been by Secretary Windom, and never have the plans of the Treasury Department been more accurately known to speculators before their official proclamation.

The President's course in the matter of the Attorney-Generalship does not command the same respect. It has been vacillating and unreasonable. He might just as well insist that a man shall accept a Cabinet appointment against his wish and will, as insist that he shall stay in the Cabinet against his wish and will. Mr. MacVeagh gave ample notice of his desire to be relieved, and left the President in no doubt of the sincerity of his determination. The Attorney-General not having committed any crime which made it wrong for the President to accept his resignation, it does not comport with the dignity of the Presidential office to treat Mr. MacVeagh's wish to be relieved as it has been treated; that is, in a way to cause him as much embarrassment as possible and to place him in an apparently false position before the public. The retention in office of Mr. MacVeagh is not necessary to the prosecution of the Star Route "ring," nor to vindicate the President's purpose to enforce the law in these cases. Mr. MacVeagh has

done the Attorney-General's work in this business; the rest is the business of the attorneys who will conduct the prosecution in court. If it is the President's purpose to press the prosecution to the end that the rogues, if there are rogues, shall be punished, he will have no difficulty in satisfying the people of his intention. His reputation as a foe of plunderers is not dependent on Mr. MacVeagh's remaining in office. He will be judged on other grounds.

But his intention, once or twice definitely formed and then abandoned, to appoint ex-Senator Howe, of Wisconsin, to succeed Mr. MacVeagh in the Cabinet, gives no assurance of such a purpose, or of any purpose, except to reward a Stalwart for sticking to opinions which his constituency have outgrown. If a President's Cabinet is a museum of mummies, Howe would be an interesting specimen. In some particulars, Mr. Howe, when he was participating in the affairs of the United States, was like Mr. Conkling. He was monstrously vain, and he cultivated a contemptuous and vituperative style of oratory. There was, however, one important difference between them,—Mr. Conkling was vigorous and forcible, and Mr. Howe never was; or, if he ever was, the present generation has forgotten it. There was nothing hopeful in such an intention as the President unquestionably entertained, and there is nothing reassuring in the report that the intention is not definitely abandoned.

The President has left no one in doubt concerning his attitude toward the anti-Bourbon movement in Virginia. He recognizes and supports Senator Mahone's organized coalition, and, if he has any reservations, as perhaps he has, in the matter of some of the avowed objects of the coalition, they are not so important as to prevent him from doing whatever an Administration may do by distribution of patronage to further the triumph of Mahone in the coming election. He believes in the political necessity of overthrowing the reigning Democracy of the South, and apparently thinks it squeamish to be over-scrupulous about what dogmas, inconsistent with the creed of Northern Republicans in regard to the sacredness of public debts, may enter into the platform of the opposition.

Such are some of the indications of the direction the Administration will take when it is fairly started on its own course. As already stated, that will not be until after the meeting of Congress,—perhaps not until some time afterwards. The President's New York friends report that he has an easy-going way of attending to business which does not differ in results from a habit of procrastination. This statement may do him injustice; but it will be remembered that one of the complaints against him as Collector of New York was that he habitually arrived at the Custom-House near or after the hour for closing business. Certainly, there are no signs yet that he comes to his conclusions and executes them with unbecoming haste. But dilatoriness even will be endured with as much grace as possible, provided the thing done, when it is done, shall prove to be wise and in the line of good administration.

THE DRAMA IN PHILADELPHIA.

OF the drama in Philadelphia, it might be said, as it was said by the witty French art critic who, meeting a brother craftsman, coming from the Gallery of Statuary of the Louvre, and being asked if he had seen the bust of Sarah Bernhardt, dryly replied: "There is no such thing." There are play-houses in Philadelphia, but there is no drama. There are neither companies nor tragedians nor comedians having here a local habitation and a name; there are only peripatetic "combinations," familiarly known to the trade, for it would scarcely be just to truth to call it a profession, as "barn-stormers." In each of these "combinations" there will generally be found two or three actors; all the others are merely players, brought together to make up a show. Of all the many theatres of the city, there are but two, the Chestnut Street and the Eighth Street houses, that have engaged their actors for the entire season. The stages of the others are filled by the barn-storming "combinations."

These "combinations" are formed and put "upon the road," not by actors, but by speculators who have no other than a pecuniary interest in the drama. Each actor or player engaged by either of them, plays the same part night after night during the entire season, and in nearly every case he or she plays it with as little expression as is shown by any other machine which is made to move in a single contracted groove. The system is as fatal to excellence in acting as it is disastrous to the drama itself. When every theatre had its own carefully selected company of actors, as the English and Continental theatres still have, every theatre was a school of acting, and every actor was either a teacher or a pupil. At that period, the actor was fortunate, indeed, who did not have to play two parts every night, or a round dozen a week, for then the bill was as likely as not to suffer a nightly change. Under the present plan, the actors are unlikely to play more than a dozen parts in a lifetime, for, as no "combination" has often more than one piece to play, and as that piece is expected to do duty among the theatres and barns of the country for two or three years, at least, the players who are cast in it act the same characters until it is finally shelved.

There are no schools of acting in Philadelphia, even in the theatres

where the stock companies are engaged, because there are no masters of the art among them. This is not the customary plaint of the old fogey, who can recognize nothing good in the present time, and who finds in his recollections only the excellence of which he regrets the loss. We are only complaining of a decadence of the drama with which every playgoer of twenty years ago is thoroughly conversant. It was but a little longer ago than that when, at the old Chestnut Street Theatre, one might have seen Charles Burke, the greatest comic genius that ever trod the American stage; Joseph Jefferson, his half-brother, and John S. Clarke as *Diggory*, in different scenes of the "Spectre Bridegroom;" or the beautiful Agnes Robertson, Lizzie Weston, Joseph Jefferson and John S. Clarke in the farce of "To Parents and Guardians." At the other houses there were like noble companies of actors, among them being Alexina Fisher, Kate Horn, Mary Duff, Fanny Wallack, Peter Richings, William Wheatley, Charles Bass, Rufus Blake; later, among our comedians were Mrs. Gladstone, Mrs. Bowers, Mrs. Conway, Effie Germon, John Gilbert, William Wheatley, John and Frank Drew, John S. Clarke, Joseph Jefferson, William A. Chapman, inimitable as *Jacques Stroph*, and in kindred parts; E. L. Davenport, Dolly, the husband of Lizzie Weston, who is now Mrs. Charles Matthews, buxom and beautiful still; Frederick Conway, and a great host of lesser, but all genuine artists.

They were masters of their art, and they not only educated the young aspirants for the stage, but the public taste as well. With such actors, it was possible to play not only the grandest of Shakespeare's tragedies and comedies in a fitting manner, but to present acceptably such exceedingly difficult pieces as "The Man of the World," "The Poor Gentleman," "The Clandestine Marriage," and other of the old comedies, with their large number of important parts, all which can be intrusted to artists only. In those days, scholars wrote for our stage, among them Dr. Bird, Judge Conrad, David Paul Brown, Richard Penn Smith and George H. Boker. Who writes for it now? Only the literary hacks of London and New York, by translating from the French stage; of original work there is nothing worth the name save Fitzgerald's dramatization of Miller's turgid "Danites."

Were it not for Mr. Booth and Mr. Barrett, Shakespeare would be banished from our stage, and were it not for Joseph Jefferson and John S. Clarke, we should have to go to our shelves to learn anything of the old comedies. But the visits of these actors are few and far between, and in consequence of the feeble support they are able to gather about them they savagely cut the noblest of Shakespeare's plays and remorselessly slash the old comedies. When men of their genius, experience and love for the drama become reckless iconoclasts, what is to be expected of those theatrical purveyors of the metropolis who come here with their "barn-stormers," with not a whole company of good actors in a score of their "combinations," presenting their French wares, largely composed of French lust or incest, for our entertainment. For a while, in intervals of years, there briefly ennobles our stage the mighty genius of a Tomaso Salvini, or a Sara Bernhardt, or, once in a season, that of a Booth or a Jefferson, and then the town testifies that its taste has not become wholly perverted by the thing it has been so long forced to feed upon, by crowding the theatre, though the price of a seat was never so high.

In the theatres, the stages of which once knew only the familiar tread of great actors and the language of the ablest dramatic authors, and the auditoriums of which were accustomed to the faces of only the most cultured and refined audiences, the lowest forms of what is termed the "variety business" is presented, and within the month a stage that has echoed to the step and voice of the elder and younger Kean, of Ellen Tree, of Macready, of the elder and younger Booth, of George Frederick Cook, of Fanny Kemble, of Rachel and Ristori, of Salvini and Forrest, and all the great artists of comedy and tragedy living during the last half century or more, has witnessed the triumph of as brutal and vulgar a "combination" of "variety" performers as ever disgraced a London dive, one of them, a woman, actually depicting in a song of unparalleled indecency the most revolting conditions of drunkenness.

These are the things we have received in part exchange for the old system of permanent companies of actors, that gave us a clean, intellectual drama, so ably presented as to command the respect and support of the most elevated society. It is a question which is suggested, but which we leave for others to discuss, how far our most refined society has been lowered in tone, and even in morality, by the decadence of the drama upon our stage. For years it has had little offered it save in the way of nude and indecent burlesque, or nude and vulgar "variety business." If our young men and women will go to the theatre, society should see to it that they see something else beside the undraped human figure, or hear something beside the unclean French *double entendre*, or fleshly innuendo. But under the "combination" system what else, except at rare intervals, is there for them to hear or see? The theatre is one of the greatest, we do not say the best, of teachers, and it concerns society to see to it that it does not teach evil instead of good. Here in Philadelphia it is teaching but little good and much evil, and so will it continue to do until the stage is reformed altogether by again becoming a school of dramatic art and the exponent of a drama clean and intellectual. That it never can be while the Gotham speculators with their "barn-stormers" hold possession of it.

LITERATURE.

PROFESSOR LESLEY ON MAN'S ORIGIN AND DESTINY.

PROFESSOR J. P. LESLEY, of this city, has published, through George H. Ellis, of Boston, a new and enlarged edition of his work, "Man's Origin and Destiny, Sketched from the Platform of the Physical Sciences." The book first saw the light in 1867, and embodied a series of eleven lectures delivered in 1865 before the Lowell Institute. Of these Professor Lesley has omitted the last, being that on "Arkite Symbolism," while he has added six new lectures, giving his view of man's destiny, a subject hardly treated at all in the first edition, although specified in the title. For the first time, we may say, the world possesses Mr. Lesley's views on the whole of the large subject which his title describes. And, if the world does not derive both instruction and suggestion from the book, it must be because it is a very stupid world.

On the threshold of our criticism, we take the liberty to object to the part of the title which describes Professor Lesley's views as taken "from the Platform of the Physical Sciences." We do not see how the mere study of physical science will bring any man to the large, hopeful and generous view of the world's present and future which this book embodies. We fail to find such views in the writings of those who have confined their studies within that range. Professor Lesley has not been merely a student of physical science. He began his career as a student of theology. In spite of that antipathy to theology of the ordinary type which led him to leave that science for geology, traces of his first love appear in his book, and show that he still cherishes the liveliest interest in the subjects which first occupied his attention. He is a theologian still,—after a fashion, indeed, which would shock many of our theologians. His view, for instance, of the teachings and influences of Jesus of Nazareth materially modifies his view of what the race is and is to be. He does not accept the view of the Christ's nature and person which is most current among us; but he is very free in confessing his personal obligations and those of the world to that grand influence. Leave that figure out of the book, and there would be a *lacuna* which no other could fill. "Men," he says, "are just now beginning to write the life of Jesus, because the life of Jesus holds closer relationship with the millennium than with the Middle or the Heroic Ages, and demands for its comprehension the knowledge of universals rather than particulars. The general working of his spirit upon and within the constitution of the world had to be, not tested, but testified, by the experiments of twice a thousand years before its all-embracing applicability, its never-failing certainty, its infinite many-sidedness, could be assented to by science." We fail to see the evidence that merely physical science has assented or ever will assent to this view of his influence, or that it has more to do with it than the calculus has to do with colors. But we do not complain of Mr. Lesley's treatment of his subject because it is broader than he promises; we complain of the narrowness of the promise.

Although Philadelphia has just reason to be proud of Professor Lesley as of one born and brought up within sound of her State House bell, we think it is a New England influence which has done most to shape both his thought and his style. We fancy we detect resemblance to Mr. Emerson's writing on almost every page. There is the same crisp sentence-making, with something of the same sublime indifference as to the fit of the sentence into the paragraph. But we think Mr. Lesley shows a more genuinely ethical and hopeful spirit than Mr. Emerson, while he possesses a far wider and more exact acquaintance with the results of research in all directions. He is not the man to tell us that "there is a substratum of ferocity in the universe," or that "men are always advancing, even on the scaffold or in the brothel."

Of course, it is to the new chapters—the six on man's destiny,—in the book that readers generally will turn with most avidity. They are, one may say, the author's version of Isaiah, xl.-lxvi.,—the new prophecy of the golden age in the future, as a practical man of science, with wide outlooks and a general interest in all things human, sees it for us. Mr. Lesley is an optimist. His view of the future is cheerful, and may serve to correct the too common tendencies to gloomy prophecies from which scientific men generally are anything but free. If his study of the past and the present owes much to collateral sources of knowledge and of inspiration, this is especially true of the future. He does not see in the future a refrigerated system and the final collapse of the race amid selfish struggles for the naked privilege of a prolonged existence. He believes in a brighter and gladder age, when the ascending lines, upon which the historic movement has gone thus far, will be carried into regions of calm and order and blessedness which we cannot anticipate. He finds the presage of this future in a thousand scientific and social facts, and lays every department of physical achievement and social effort under contribution for the colors in which to sketch "the world to come" on this planet. As has been said of one of Burke's speeches, "a decree has gone forth that all the world shall be taxed" for materials to build up this grand edifice of hope.

To us, and we fear to most readers, Professor Lesley's bright auguries are not so palpably true as they are to him. We think the defect

of his prophecy is in a failure to apprehend the darkness of the dark side. It is, indeed, the weakness of his school of thought that "the exceeding sinfulness of sin" is not estimated as Jesus, Paul, Augustine, Luther, Leighton, Pascal, Wesley, Kant and even Byron have estimated it. We are fully agreed that the consciousness of this dark shadow has weighed, at times, far too heavily and too exclusively on the hearts of men. We are also agreed that the theology Professor Lesley dislikes has too often exhausted humanity of significance and robbed it of dignity, making man now the scannel-pipe for the utterance of a divine power, and now the grovelling worm for whom damnation is all too good. The Puritan theology has been defective on these sides; the most consistent Puritan was the divine who wrote the tractate: "The Glory of God Exalted in the Final Damnation of All Men." And such writers as Professor Lesley are doing good service in combating the narrow, inhuman, cheerless tendencies of this manner of thought.

All this we are agreed to. But the future is not in the hands of those who reduce good and evil to the conception of the fit and the unfit, saying that "the good is the convenient and the bad the inconvenient." The tendency to reduce sin to this level is one in which science agrees with the "liberal" theology, not because it insists on a nobler view of man's nature, but because it has no perception of will in man or of responsibility in any sense except that of exposure to consequences. But those who are to speak with genuine power to the hearts and consciences of burdened men, and interpret the meaning of their remorse, must have a different perception and a different message. But, however serious the ground of our dissent from Professor Lesley, we are glad to be able to say that our last word is one of consent,—the hope for the time when "Christ will have, indeed, come the second time to rule and bless the world."

We have found a great deal of instruction and suggestion in this book, and a great deal to excite dissent. It is a book which expresses the most serious thought of a man worth knowing. Had we never met its author, we should have formed through it that friendship for him to which the right use of good books always leads. Had Mr. Lesley left the world nothing but his record as the superintendent of the Second Geological Survey of Pennsylvania,—the most splendid ever carried out by any American State,—he would have acquired a permanent name. But now we can turn from the volumes of that great work, to find in this what manner of man he was who stood at the head of the earnest workers who made it.

REVIEWS AND MAGAZINES.—The November issue of the *North American Review* presents few topics, though no diminution in the quantity of its matter. Four of the leading lawyers of the country discuss the subject of "Presidential Inability,"—a topic of immediate interest while President Garfield lay prostrated, and still entitled to public attention, but which will now lapse away, in all probability, undecided and unsettled, because it presents no immediate urgency. The four writers on the question are ex-Senator Lyman Trumbull, Judge Thomas M. Cooley, General B. F. Butler and Professor Theodore W. Dwight. Substantially, they discuss the same propositions: (1) What constitutes such "inability" as is contemplated by the Constitution? (2) Who are the proper arbiters of the existence of such "inability," and (3) Who is to act in such event as President? To the first proposition the conclusion reached is that a disability, mental or physical, preventing the performance of duties requisite for the public safety, is such as was intended by the framers of the Constitution. In regard to the second proposition, the really paramount one, there is much disagreement. Mr. Trumbull maintains that the Cabinet should decide; Judge Cooley holds that Congress possesses the determining power; Butler that the Vice-President should assume the responsibility, subject to the disapprobation of Congress and the people; while Professor Dwight contends that Congress should appoint some legal proceedings for such exigency, these proceedings to be instituted by itself. To follow the reasoning leading to so much diversity of conclusion, is, fortunately, not here necessary. In regard to the third proposition, there is also a divergence of opinion. General Butler says of the President that "his inability to discharge the duties of his office may cease; and therefore the discharge of the powers and duties of that office, in case the inability of the President is only temporary, is liable to be terminated at any moment when the President's inability ends." But Professor Dwight holds no such theory. He argues at length against the idea of "an alternative officer" and this part of his paper is perhaps as interesting as any other part of the four. He holds emphatically that, when the Vice-President, by reason of "inability" on the part of the President, has once entered upon the duties of the latter's place, he continues in their discharge to the end of the four years, unless himself disabled. If, then, General Arthur had, at any time during President Garfield's prostration, assumed the duties of the Presidency, because of the latter's "inability," he (General Garfield,) would have ceased to be President to the end of the term for which he was elected, regardless whether or not his inability might have subsequently terminated upon his recovery from his wound. This is not an agreeable view of the case; but Professor Dwight thinks it greatly preferable to what he names "the regency" theory. Altogether, it may be said of the

"symposium" on the subject, that it simply proves how lawyers differ. The Marquis of Blandford contributes a paper on "England's Hereditary Republic," evidently written on the supposition that the readers of the periodical to which he contributes are not very familiar with the history or principles of English governmental and legislative institutions. We are told his object is to show "that England, a republic in all but the name, so far as concerns its legislative functions, is essentially aristocratic in its administrative details." Senator Hoar writes interestingly of "The Appointing Power," giving a brief account of the rise of the "spoils system," and concluding in advocacy of such a Civil Service Reform bill as that introduced by Mr. Pendleton, which makes competitive examination and gradual promotion the basis of civil appointments. "The Christian Religion," by Robert G. Ingersoll, consumes the remainder of the issue. It is not needful here to enter into the sinuosities of the controversy raging between Messrs. Black and Ingersoll, which we regret to say is not characterized by too much dignity on either side. Both disputants are clever polemical writers, and show considerable dialectical skill; but neither, in so far as regards the immensity and comprehensiveness of the subject at issue, is *totus, teres atque rotundus*. Mr. Black is certainly not in the van of the rationalistic movement, and retains a dogmatism hardly in consonance with advanced thought, while Ingersoll is superficial in metaphysical acquisition, and often unbecomingly irreverent. In the present production Mr. Ingersoll elaborates his position assumed in his previous article, adds new arguments, and at the same time answers the strictures of Mr. Black.

The *International Review* opens with Part II. of "Victor Hugo," by August Laugel. This is a literary biography, with constant bits of criticism eminently calculated for the delectation of the *littérateur*, but insusceptible of satisfactory synopsis. William E. Boggs' "Mr. Atkinson on 'The Solid South'" is also a second instalment. Mr. Boggs controverts many statements of Mr. Atkinson with ability, and puts his case strongly, though we cannot acquiesce in the highly colored limning of Southern enlightenment and negro felicity in bondage. J. Brander Mathews thinks "The Plays of M. Octave Feuillet" "unhealthy," and that his morality is "insidious," inasmuch as it parades "itself in the livery of a militant virtue." These estimates are supported by a review of Feuillet's entire dramatic works. A somewhat startling paper is that on "The Punishability of the Insane," by Dr. Hammond, of New York. His first pages are devoted to an exposition of the *malum in se* and the *malum prohibitum*, having effected which to his content he proceeds to explain the prophylactic object of primitive measures in the intimidation of the individual and the example to others. Continuing, he argues that: "Regarding the matter from the standpoint that all laws are for the protection of society, and that the principles of abstract justice, as between the offender and society, have no necessary place in jurisprudence, there seems to be no valid reason why, if the protection of society demands it, the insane should not be punished for violation of law, even though they be morally irresponsible for their acts by reason of delirium, dementia, morbid impulse, emotional insanity, or any other form of mental aberration. . . . We do not hesitate, regardless of its natural rights, to kill the hydrophobic dog which runs through the streets snapping at every one it meets. The rights of society to protection are far above the dog to life, and abstract justice does not enter for a moment into our minds, in our consideration how to deal with it."—Page 445. Such tenets are retrogressive to the verge of barbarism, and the analogy between the rabid canine and demented individual positively grotesque. Dr. H. must either be ignorant of, or forget, that, apart from all humanitarian considerations, the essence of legal punishment requires the criminal to be capable of discriminating wrong from right in the given instance, and objectifying the consequences of his act, and that legal insanity deprives one of just such prerequisites of punishment. Foreseeing, on his theory, the necessity of abolishing such institutions as asylums, he paralogically observes that in a good majority of cases the patient either escapes or is allowed to go free before restoration to mental health, and that therefore the poor maniac had best be hanged. In support of this enlightened position he tells two anecdotes highly illustrative of semi-civilization. Following all this are several pages, parts of which might bear a milder interpretation, but in the light of the quotation given we cannot accord it. For instance, a paragraph near the conclusion reads thus: "The question, therefore, in the case of a criminal should not be 'Is he insane,' but 'Is he responsible?'" Taken alone, this were mere enunciation of platitude, such as nobody worth listening to opposes, but in conjunction with the foregoing it would seem to eventuate in determinate cruelty. The proposed publication of these views in pamphlet form will not, we think, much advance our knowledge on the subject. Richard H. Edmunds furnishes the financial and statistical matter of the number in "Our Exports of Breadstuffs." "An Acadian Governor," by James Grant Wilson, closing the issue, is a biography of Samuel Veitch, first Governor of Nova Scotia, called Acadia under Gallic rule. The period of which the narrative treats (1668-1730,) is an eventful one, and the part played by the hero, Colonel Veitch, by no means a subordinate one. Altogether, the account is well told, and gives many

out-of-the-way facts of our colonial history.

The Journal of Speculative Philosophy.—Without entering into the question of the utility or inutility of metaphysics, it must be granted that no person can claim a place within the hallowed domain of cultivation without more or less conversance with the subjects of inquiry of philosophy proper. So far as this country is concerned, the only periodical publication of prominence devoted exclusively to the purely speculative, is the quarterly just named, but which, for a number of reasons too obvious for mention, is not particularly well known. The initial article consists of an endeavor to demonstrate the self-distinctive elements of the "Basis of Agnosticism," whether it be assumed on a Kantian or physiological method. As the subject-matter is one rendering compression impracticable, we cannot do more than enter our categorical protest against the conclusion arrived at in relation to a physiological agnosticism; for here we are strongly inclined to think the editor, who is the writer of this thesis, mistakes the nature of the argument. With a delightful positivity, Alfred Arnold, in the following contribution, "gives the final analysis of all being; harmonizing and bringing into the field of science, physics, metaphysics and religion." However well acquainted with ancient and modern philosophy, we beg leave to decline epitomizing the intricacies of this paper. With a charming ingenuousness, physical axioms are overthrown, and a system erected, the presumptuousness of which is amply attested by the above description of the author's own statement of his purpose. The disciples of Hegel will no doubt be pleased by F. L. Soldan's translation of "God in His Eternal Idea," from the third part of "The Philosophy of Religion." Without a knowledge of the Hegelian subtleties in the purity of his idealism and doctrine of the identities of contraries, this was extremely difficult to follow. Indeed, there is perhaps no writer in any language or upon any subject whose principles are more laborious in comprehension and whose style is less perspicuous. Two more translations from the German complete the conspicuous papers. The first is a lecture by F. N. J. Schelling on "The Science of the Fine Arts," making, in conformity to his theories, the philosophy of art "a presentation of the absolute in the form of art." The second, "Psychogenesis," is by Dr. Preyer, of the University of Jena. In leaning it is decidedly materialistic, giving much more weight to heredity and reflex physiological action, than to some hyperphysical entity. Dr. Preyer has given most careful study and the minutest attention to the evolution of mind in the infant, and traces with consummate exactitude the phenomena showing the dawning intelligence in the childish existence. Much importance is also attached to the influence of linguistic acquisition in its reaction upon intellection.

CAMPAIGNS OF THE CIVIL WAR.—The history of the contest over the maintenance of the Union is a subject so extensive and complex that the historian handles it with difficulty. Not the chronicle of a simple campaign, or even of a series of campaigns, but of a vast revolutionary struggle, involving great principles and important facts entirely outside the field of arms, it must be treated in its political and moral, as well as its military, aspects. A very natural result is the tendency to divide the general subject into special ones, and to make distinct studies of events that are readily grouped. This plan is followed with reference to the operations of the war itself in the series of volumes that Messrs. Charles Scribner's Sons are now publishing. Beginning with "The Outbreak of Rebellion," they follow it with eleven other volumes, each distinct and independent, but connecting the great narrative in a systematic and orderly manner. The plan is excellent. It does not fatigue the reader. It permits each epoch to be treated by a specially competent and well-informed writer—usually, if not uniformly, one who personally observed and shared in the events which he describes. No one man could have seen the whole of our great struggle, or even have had such knowledge of it in detail as to enable him to describe it all so well as may be done by a number of writers when each relates what he himself observed. Of the two volumes already out, the first, with the title above stated, is by John G. Nicolay, who was one of the private secretaries of President Lincoln; and the second, describing the military events in the West, "From Fort Henry to Corinth," is from the hand of Hon. M. F. Force, now one of the Justices of the Superior Court of Cincinnati, but who, in the war, was a Brigadier-General of Volunteers, commanding the first division of the Seventeenth Army Corps. The work allotted to Judge Force is by comparison a simple one; Mr. Nicolay has to include in a brief volume all the vast mass of facts at the opening of the war. He begins with the act which he terms "the initial point of the American Rebellion,"—the sending by Governor Gist, of South Carolina, on October 5th, 1860, of a secession circular to the Governors of the "Cotton States,"—and he closes with a description of the Battle of Bull Run. Between these dates much has to be told, varied in its character, complex in its arrangement and relations. But Mr. Nicolay tells it extremely well. His narrative is spirited, and at times graphic and eloquent. He generalizes with excellent judgment, and has succeeded in telling his story with sufficient condensation, and yet without overlooking important details. In many instances we find his narrative extremely fresh and original, stating the familiar great

events in a new and entertaining manner—sometimes with the addition of details heretofore unrepresented. The description of Lincoln, and of the firing on Sumter, are notably good. The narrative of General Patterson's campaign in the Shenandoah Valley takes the negative view of the question as to his military skill, a question which is at least open to debate.

Judge Force's volume is, in its degree, as well done as Mr. Nicolay's. His work is simply to relate the military events in the West within certain dates, beginning with the summer of 1861, and ending in May, 1862, with the evacuation of Corinth by the Confederates under Breckenridge. This is plain, straightforward work, almost entirely military, and little complicated by exterior circumstances. It is performed with extreme care. The descriptions are concise and compact—doubtless, also, accurate. It is a most serviceable volume for the general reader on the military epoch of which it treats, and especially so for its description of the Battle of Shiloh.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

- VIEWS ON VEXED QUESTIONS. By W. W. Kinsley. Pp. 380. \$1.50. J. B. Lippincott & Co., Philadelphia.
- SPANISH FAIRY TALES. By Fernan Caballero. Translated by J. H. Ingram. Pp. 241. \$1.25. J. B. Lippincott & Co., Philadelphia.
- MALARIA: WHAT IT MEANS AND HOW AVOIDED. By Joseph F. Edwards, M. D. Pp. 81. \$0.75. Presley Blakiston, Philadelphia.
- BOOKS AND READING; OR, WHAT BOOKS SHALL I READ? AND HOW SHALL I READ THEM? By Noah Porter, D. D., L. L. D., President of Yale College. Pp. 434. Charles Scribner's Sons, New York. (J. B. Lippincott & Co., Philadelphia.)
- MY FIRST HOLIDAY; OR, LETTERS HOME FROM COLORADO, UTAH, AND CALIFORNIA. By Caroline H. Dall. Pp. 430. \$1.50. Roberts Brothers, Boston. (Porter & Coates, Philadelphia.)
- COUNTRY BY-WAYS. By Sarah Orne Jewett. Pp. 249. Houghton, Mifflin & Co., Boston. (J. B. Lippincott & Co., Philadelphia.)
- THE PUBLISHERS' TRADE LIST ANNUAL. 1881. \$1.50. F. Leypoldt, 13 and 15 Park Row, New York.
- HAND-BOOK OF WOOD-ENGRAVING; WITH PRACTICAL INSTRUCTION IN THE ART FOR PERSONS WISHING TO LEARN WITHOUT AN INSTRUCTOR. By William A. Emerson. Pp. 95. \$1.00. Lee & Shepard, Boston. (James Hammond, 1224 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia.)
- THE DUTIES OF WOMEN: A COURSE OF LECTURES. By Frances Power Cobbe. Authorized Edition. Pp. 193. George H. Ellis, Boston. (J. B. Lippincott, Philadelphia.)
- MAN'S ORIGIN AND DESTINY, SKETCHED FROM THE PLATFORM OF THE PHYSICAL SCIENCES. By J. P. Lesley. Second Edition, Enlarged. George H. Ellis, Boston. (J. B. Lippincott & Co., Philadelphia.)
- THE LETTERS OF CHARLES DICKENS. Edited by his Sister-in-Law and his Eldest Daughter. Vol. III. 1836 to 1870. Pp. 285. \$1.50. Charles Scribner's Sons, New York. (J. B. Lippincott & Co., Philadelphia.)
- GOLD FOIL HAMMERED FROM POPULAR PROVERBS. By Timothy Titcomb (Dr. Holland). Pp. 333. \$1.25. Charles Scribner's Sons, New York. (J. B. Lippincott & Co., Philadelphia.)
- MASSACHUSETTS IN THE WOMAN SUFFRAGE MOVEMENT. A General, Political, Legal, and Legislative History, from 1774 to 1881. By Harriet H. Robinson. Pp. 265. \$1.25. Roberts Brothers, Boston. (Porter & Coates, Philadelphia.)
- COUNTRY PLEASURES: THE CHRONICLE OF A YEAR, CHIEFLY IN A GARDEN. By George Milner. Pp. 345. \$1.50. Roberts Brothers, Boston. (Porter & Coates, Philadelphia.)
- THORNCLEIFFE HALL. ("Winwood Cliff Series.") By Daniel Wise, D. D. Pp. 260. \$1.00. Lee & Shepard, Boston. (James Hammond, 1224 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia.)
- TITCOMB'S LETTERS TO YOUNG PEOPLE, SINGLE AND MARRIED. By Timothy Titcomb, Esq. (Fiftieth edition.) Pp. 223. \$1.25. Charles Scribner's Sons, New York. (J. B. Lippincott & Co., Philadelphia.)
- BITTER-SWEET. A POEM. By J. G. Holland. Pp. 202. \$1.25. Charles Scribner's Sons, New York. (J. B. Lippincott & Co., Philadelphia.)
- OUR LITTLE ONES: ILLUSTRATED STORIES AND POEMS FOR LITTLE PEOPLE. William T. Adams, ("Oliver Optic,") Editor. (With 350 original illustrations.) Pp. 384. \$1.50. Lee & Shepard, Boston. (James Hammond, 1224 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia.)
- HOME BALLADS. By Bayard Taylor. (With illustrations.) Pp. 61. Houghton, Mifflin & Co., Boston. (J. B. Lippincott & Co., Philadelphia.)
- THE CHILDREN'S BOOK: A COLLECTION OF THE BEST AND MOST FAMOUS STORIES AND POEMS IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE. Chosen by Horace E. Scudder. (With a colored frontispiece, by Rosina Emmett, and many illustrations.) Pp. 444. Houghton, Mifflin & Co., Boston. (J. B. Lippincott & Co., Philadelphia.)
- THE FLOATING PRINCE, AND OTHER FAIRY TALES. By Frank R. Stockton. Pp. 199. \$2.50. Charles Scribner's Sons, New York. (J. B. Lippincott & Co., Philadelphia.)

THE NATIONAL TEMPERANCE ALMANAC AND TEETOTALER'S YEAR-BOOK FOR 1882. By J. N. Stearns. Pp. 64. \$0.10. The National Temperance Society and Publication House, New York.

THE AMERICAN CHURCH REVIEW, OCTOBER, 1881. Edited by the Rev. Henry Mason Baum. American Church Review Press, New York.

THE MAGAZINE OF AMERICAN HISTORY. Edited by John Austin Stevens. (January to October, 1881, inclusive.) A. S. Barnes & Co., New York.

AUTHORS AND PUBLISHERS.

WALT WHITMAN'S new edition of "Leaves of Grass," issued by James R. Osgood & Co., includes all the old pieces and many new ones, making over three hundred in all, and forming a volume of three hundred and eighty-two pages, and including the author's complete poetical works. We take from it this:

"ABOARD AT A SHIP'S HELM."

"Aboard at a ship's helm,
A young steersman steering with care,
Through fog on a sea-coast dolefully ringing,
An ocean-bell—O a warning bell rocked by the waves.
"O you give good notice indeed, you bell by the sea-reefs ringing,
Ringing, ringing, to warn the ship from its wreck-place.
"For as on the alert O steersman, you mind the loud admonition,
The bows turn, the freighted ship tacking speeds away under her gray sails,
The beautiful and noble ship with all her precious wealth speeds away gayly and safe!
"But O the ship, the immortal ship! O ship aboard the ship!
Ship of the body, ship of the soul, voyaging, voyaging, voyaging."

No sooner is one number of a magazine on the news-dealer's counter, than another is being made ready. Although the November *Harper's* has only just started on its travels, the December number is almost all in type. It will contain, among other things, "Sam Sperry's Pension," a humorous and pathetic New England tale, by Miss Sally McLean, the author of "Cape Cod Folks;" and a poem by T. B. Aldrich, illustrated by Abbey, who has just returned to New York, after several years' residence in London.

The London *Athenaeum*, in a recent issue, calls attention to the fact that it was the two thousand six hundred and tenth issued by Mr. John Francis, he having become the publisher of that journal on the 4th of October, 1831. The fact is, it believes, unprecedented in journalism; no other London publisher, at any rate, has been connected with the same paper for a period of fifty years.

A new edition of Dean Stanley's "Life of Dr. Arnold," to be shortly issued, will contain an unpublished poem by Keble, as well as the last corrections made by the author in this the most popular of his many popular books. Mr. Murray, who publishes this, also promises a volume of the Dean's sermons, preached in Westminster Abbey, and announces the third and concluding volume of the "Life of Bishop Wilberforce."

Rev. Henry Ward Beecher has withdrawn from all interest in and editorial connection with the *Christian Union*. He says Rev. Lyman Abbott has had for several years the whole practical management of the paper, and has conducted it with industry, good judgment and Christian spirit, so that while retiring himself he has the fullest confidence in its future.

Mark Twain's new book, "Prince and Pauper," which has already been alluded to, is a romance for young people, and is marked by qualities which the popular humorist has not before been suspected of possessing. The story turns upon a supposed change of places between the son of Henry VIII. and a low-born youth whom he resembles. The subsequent history of the false prince and the false pauper affords opportunity for many striking contrasts, and there is a vivid historic realism in some of the passages. The dialect of the period is pretty well sustained, and the New York *Tribune* describes the humor as Cervantean, though with a tenderness that Cervantes could not know.

New York is to have a new weekly paper, *The Town*, on the plan of Mr. La-bouchère's *Truth* of London.

The *Farm Journal* of Philadelphia, a unique agricultural monthly which has attained a remarkable degree of success, prints an edition of 300,000 copies for December.

"The Diary of an Idle Woman in Sicily," by Mrs. Minto Elliot, will shortly be published by Messrs. Bentley & Son.

A new work by George Jacob Holyoake, entitled "Joseph Rayner Stephens, Preacher and Political Orator," is just issued by Williams & Norgate, London. Mr. Stephens was the son of a former President of the Wesleyan Conference, and he and his friend Count Montalembert jointly formed a plan of popular agitation for conservative objects which they both pursued through life.

Robert Clarke & Co., Cincinnati, will have ready November 10th "Thomas Corwin: A Sketch," by A. P. Russell, author of "Literary Notes," etc. Mr. Russell was an acquaintance and admirer of the great Ohio orator, and the volume, though concise, is more extensive and elaborate than anything that has yet appeared in relation to him. It will contain a new steel-plate portrait of Governor Corwin, engraved expressly for the book.

The edition of La Fontaine's fables illustrated by Gustave Doré is well known. An issue of it intended for Portugal is now being printed in Paris. The engravings will be those used in the French and English editions, but the text will contain translations of the fables from the best known poets, old and new, of Portugal and Brazil.

The Italian translation of the work on the "Graves of the Popes," by Ferdinand

Gregorovius, has been placed on the index of prohibited books, where it is in very good company.

Mr. Warner's "Washington Irving," the initial volume in Houghton, Mifflin & Co.'s series, "American Men of Letters," is postponed until November 16th.

Mrs. Burnett's "A Fair Barbarian" has had a sale, it is reported, of over sixteen thousand copies in England.

In Lord Lytton's "Lucile," the place where the scene is laid has always been printed "Serchon," which, it seems, was an error arising from a misinterpretation of the author's manuscript, and which was overlooked in the proof. In a new illustrated edition by Messrs. Osgood & Co., this will be corrected to "Luchon."

Karl Knortz, of Johnstown, Pa., will issue through Bernhard Schlicke, of Leipzig, a series of essays on American topics, entitled "*Aus der Transatlantischen Gesellschaft—Kulturbilder aus Nordamerika*."

"Templeton" writes from Boston to the Hartford *Courant* that the book trade of the former city is in a flourishing condition.

The *Publishers' Trade List*, issued by F. Leypoldt, No. 13 Park Row, New York, has reached its ninth year. It forms the completest register that exists of books published in the United States during the year between July 1, 1880, and June 30, 1881, and contains the latest catalogues of publishers, an order list for 1881, and the American Educational Catalogue for 1881.

Presley Blakiston, Philadelphia, will issue on November 1st a new edition of "Winter and Its Dangers," by Hamilton Osgood, of Boston. The marked success of this little book in former editions warrants a reduction of price in this. He also has ready a new edition of Dr. George Wilson's "Health and Healthy Homes," which attracted much attention when first published last year. It is a thorough exposition of the causes of disease, with considerations relative to food, diet, the home and its surroundings, infectious diseases and their prevention, etc.

Mr. J. W. Bouton, 706 Broadway, New York, announces that he has secured in London the few remaining copies of the large paper edition of the "History of Holland House," by the Princess Marie Liechtenstein. He offers them at half the original price.

Harper's Young People now enters upon its third year. It has been a very positive success, and as an evidence that, while it is attractive, it is not sensational, the publishers mention that the Chataqua "Young People's Union" has included it among the works which the members of the Union are required to read. The author of "Toby Tyler" will contribute to the new volume a story called "Mr. Stubbs's Brother."

Mr. Murray has recently published a new volume by Mr. Darwin, regarded as a most important contribution to natural history, entitled "The Formation of Vegetable Mould Through the Action of Worms, with Observations on their Habits."

Mr. Eliot McCormick and Mr. Hamilton W. Mabie are the associates of Mr. Lyman Abbott on the *Christian Union*.

G. P. Putnam's Sons add to their recent announcements: "Opium Smoking in America and China," by W. H. Kane, M. D., author of the "Hypodermic Injection of Morphia," etc.; a series entitled "Science Ladders," edited by N. D'Anvers,—a series of readers designed to teach the great laws of nature in simple language; an illustrated edition of Miss Ellen H. Gates's popular poem, "Your Mission;" "A Text-Book of Kant," including an analysis of his works, commentary and index, and a biography, by J. H. Sterling; "The New Infidelity," an essay, by A. R. Grote; "The Art of Voice Production," by A. A. Pattou; "A History of Rome for Young People," by W. L. Alden; "The Romance of Waldenton," to be issued as one of the "Knickerbocker Novels;" "Arsiesis," a poem, by O. J. Schoolcraft; "The Science and Practice of Medicine," by Professor Alonzo B. Palmer, of the University of Michigan; and "The Anatomist," a manual for students, by W. W. Hilles.

The Student, a unique and suggestive monthly "devoted to the interests of education in the Society of Friends," is edited by Professor Isaac Sharpless, of Haverford College, and Watson W. Dewees, a teacher at Westtown (Friends') School.

Little's Living Age continues, as for so many years, to present weekly the cream of the foreign periodicals. The numbers last out contain articles from the *Nineteenth Century*, *Fortnightly*, *Fraser's*, *Blackwood*, *Nature*, *Chambers's Journal*, *St. James Gazette*, *Athenaeum*, and others.

ART AND ARTISTS.

THE School of Fine Arts at Paris has received from the Grand Duke Vladimir some fine casts of the celebrated statue of Peter the Great by the French statuary, Maurice Falconnet. This was the chief work of this sculptor, who obtained the order for it through the influence of Voltaire and Diderot with Catherine II.

Philadelphia will make this season an unusual display of pictures, and will contribute, certainly, a fair share to the appreciation and advancement of art. Two fine exhibitions of paintings are now at hand. The annual exhibition of the Academy of Fine Arts will open this evening, (November 5th,) and on the 14th the Philadelphia Society of Artists will open its third annual exhibition at its new galleries on Chestnut street, when some five hundred pictures will be hung. It is understood that the exhibition at the Academy will be made up largely of pictures painted in Europe. That of the Society of Artists will be composed exclusively of American works, the list of contributors including the names of sixty-three painters of New York and eighteen of Philadelphia, among whom are nearly all the men of greatest prominence in American art.

A gentleman who has just returned from a visit to the various colonies of American art students in Europe, reports that in addition to the large number of our countrymen working in Paris, and to respectable colonies in Dusseldorf, Antwerp, London, and various Italian cities, there are a full hundred hard at work in Munich.

The exhibition of American wood-engravings in Boston has been delayed in getting into order. It now offers rather more than the title implies, as it has developed into an exhibition illustrating the whole history of the art. Beginning with anonymous German wood-cuts of the fifteenth century, the golden age of German wood-engraving of the sixteenth century is well represented by the wood-cuts after Dürer, Cranach, Burgkmair, Hans Holbein the younger, H. S. Beham, Hans Schäuffelein, and others; Italian engraving by Beccafumi (593-602), and Boldrini (569-571); and the Netherlands of the seventeenth century by Jeggheers (565-568). The specimens of American art begin with "An Astronomical Diary," printed by J. Draper, of Boston, in 1747. There are 399 entries in the catalogue referring to contemporary specimens of the art in this country, and these are highly praised.

DRIFT.

—Some very interesting objects in archaeology have recently been found in France. At St. Vallier, near Cannes, M. Bottin, the postmaster of the place, has for some time been excavating prehistoric remains of much interest in the neighborhood. *Le Commerce*, a local journal, states that he has discovered a tomb in which cremated remains were found, with articles of the Neolithic period. The carbonized skeleton is that of a powerful man, and it is surrounded by weapons of bronze and of polished flint, with bits of pottery. M. Bottin has been quite unaided in his very meritorious enterprise, and it is hoped that the French Government will assist him to carry out his researches in a thorough and regular fashion. In the neighborhood of Nantes, an important discovery of bronze objects has been made. A fisherman in the Loire, seeking for bait, found in a round hole, excavated in the clay of the shore, a number of weapons and articles of jewelry. Some of these articles have, it is said, an exceptional value, being like those discovered in Swiss lake-dwellings. The "find" comprised axes, hammers, gouges, pendants, bracelets, rings, parts of necklaces, bosses of shields, heads of lances and javelins, fragments of swords and daggers.

—The death of the inventor of the polka waltz is announced. This was the retired musical professor, Franz Hilmer, who recently died in Prague, at the age of seventy-nine. About forty years ago, he composed the first polka that ever appeared in print, both the music and the step being taken from a popular Bohemian country dance. In Czech the word "polka" means "half;" the analogy of meaning is obvious. The first polka ever written was the "Esmeralda Polka."

—A gigantic greenhouse is being erected in the *Jardin des Plantes*, Paris, close to the labyrinth. Owing to its immense size and to the splendid specimens of tropical plants it will contain, this conservatory will, *Galignani* says, be one of the curiosities of Paris.

—Mr. Morgan Brierley writes to *Nature* (London,) an interesting letter in which he points out similarities in the magnitudes in the data of the rainfall at Bombay and the ebb and flow of the Nile during the period from 1849 to 1880 inclusive. The floods of the Nile, adds Mr. Brierley, are mainly caused by the heavy rains which descend upon the high table-lands of Abyssinia, a range of mountains on the opposite side of the Indian Ocean to that of the Ghats, but parallel to them and under the same latitudes. Mr. Brierley therefore infers that the great southwest monsoon which sweeps over the Indian Ocean in the summer months induces fertility and plenty alike on the plains of the Concon of India and the Delta of Egypt.

—The Statistical Society of Great Britain announce that the subject of the essay for the Howard Medal competition for 1882 is "On the State of the Prisons in England and Wales in the Eighteenth Century, and its influence on the severity and spread of small-pox among the English population at that period. The essays also to present a comparison of the mortality by small-pox among the prison population of England and Wales during the eighteenth century, with the mortality from the same cause during the last twenty years." The essays are to be sent in by June 30th, next.

FINANCIAL AND TRADE REVIEW.

THURSDAY, November 3.

THE money market has been generally easy, and the prices of stocks have been maintained, with a generally firm but rather dull market. The closing prices yesterday for the principal stocks were: In *Philadelphia*—Lehigh Valley, 61½; Northern Pacific common, 39; Northern Pacific preferred, 80½; Pennsylvania, 63½; Reading, 34½; Lehigh Navigation, 49½; Philadelphia and Erie, 20; Northern Pennsylvania, 60; United Companies of New Jersey, 184; Huntingdon and Broadtop preferred, 30. *New York*—New York Central, 140; Erie, 46½; Pacific Mail, 48½; Western Union, 86½; Northwestern common, 125½; Northwestern preferred, 137½; Rock Island, 135; St. Paul common, 108½; St. Paul preferred, 122; Lake Shore, 122½; Delaware and Hudson, 109½; New Jersey Central, 95½; Delaware, Lackawanna and Western, 127½; Ohio and Mississippi, 41½; Union Pacific, 120½; Michigan Central, 94½; Hannibal & St. Joseph common, 95½; Wabash common, 48½; Wabash preferred, 88½; Northern Pacific common, 39; Northern Pacific preferred, 80½.

The following were the closing quotations of United States securities in New York last evening:

	Bid.	Asked.
United States 4½s, 1891, registered,	112	112½
United States 4½s, 1891, coupon,	113	113½
United States 4s, 1907, registered,	116	116½
United States 4s, 1907, coupon,	116	116½
United States currency 6s, 1895,	130	
United States currency 6s, 1896,	130½	
United States currency 6s, 1897,	131½	
United States currency 6s, 1898,	132½	
United States currency 6s, 1899,	133½	
Continued 6s,	100	101¼
Continued 5s,	101½	102

The New York banks made a very favorable statement for last week. There was a large gain in specie, a considerable increase in deposits, and a contraction in loans. The reserve is now \$4,710,800 in excess of the legal requirement. The principal items and changes are shown below:

	October 22.	October 29.	Differences.
Loans,	\$311,310,500	\$309,254,500	Dec. \$2,056,000
Specie,	58,359,400	61,068,100	Inc. 2,708,700
Legal tenders,	15,208,700	15,652,400	Inc. 443,700
Deposits,	286,643,300	288,038,800	Inc. 1,395,500
Circulation,	19,919,000	19,948,000	Inc. 29,000

The statement presented on Monday by the Philadelphia banks, of the business of last week, was also more favorable. A gain of \$137,477 in the surplus reserve is shown. The principal items were as follows:

	October 22.	October 29.	Differences.
Loans,	\$77,483,364	\$76,675,853	Dec. \$807,511
Reserve,	16,636,105	16,773,582	Inc. 137,477
Deposits,	52,568,208	51,920,023	Dec. 648,185
Circulation,	11,106,828	11,069,145	Dec. 37,683
Clearings,	55,019,744	48,858,774	Dec. 6,165,900

The receipts of specie from Europe have been nearly suspended; arrivals from England are not noted. There have been small amounts received from German ports. The steamships "Frisia" and "Oder," at New York, Monday, brought \$497,300 in francs. The "Wieland" and "Vandalia," Wednesday, brought \$389,000 in francs and marks. It is remarked that the amounts of specie which were reported from the other side as having been sent on shipboard have now been received, and it may be presumed that the flow to this country has ceased for the present.

The figures in the report of the Director of the U. S. Mint on the production of gold and silver in the United States during the fiscal year 1880, (July 1, 1880, to June 30, 1881,) have already been mentioned. They are said to be very trustworthy. They place the production of gold for that year at \$36,000,000, and of silver \$39,200,000. California furnished \$17,500,000 in gold; Colorado, \$17,000 in silver, and \$3,200,000 in gold; Nevada, \$10,900,000 in silver, and \$4,800,000 in gold; Utah, \$4,740,000 in silver; Dakota, \$3,600,000 in gold. The following is the estimated production of the mines in this country for several years:

Year.	Gold.	Silver.
1880,	\$36,000,000	\$39,200,000
1879,	38,900,000	40,812,000
1878,	51,06,360	45,281,385
1877,	46,897,390	39,973,573
1876,	39,929,166	38,783,016

The coinage of the U. S. Mint in Philadelphia during the month of October was 6,539,500 pieces, valued at \$8,663,500. This amount was made up of 384,500 eagles, 755,000 half-eagles, 1,050,000 silver dollars, and 4,350,000 cents. The statement of the U. S. Treasury for the month of October, issued on Tuesday, shows a reduction of debt during that month of \$13,321,458.87. The total debt, including accrued interest, stood, November 1, at \$2,026,495,438.12, and the cash in the Treasury being \$240,960,971.22, the net debt, less the cash, was \$1,785,534,466.90. The Treasurer's statement of assets and liabilities shows a decrease of about \$2,000,000 in gold coin and gold bullion, compared with October 1. The continued demand for money enabled the Treasurer to pay out nearly as many silver dollars during the month as were manufactured at the Mints, the increase of these silver pieces being less than \$500,000. The number of silver dollars coined during the month was 2,350,000. The amount in silver dollars now on hand is \$66,576,378, and the amount of silver certificates issued against these silver pieces is \$66,327,670. The amount of these dollars in the Government's ownership is therefore very small.

The total receipts from customs during October were \$18,862,398, and from internal revenue \$13,409,971, against \$15,204,503 from customs and \$11,737,472 from internal revenue for October, 1880. The receipts for the four months ending on Monday, compared with the corresponding four months of last year, are shown in the following table:

	1881.	1880.
Customs,	\$77,583,935	\$71,383,716
Internal revenue,	51,317,976	44,297,537
Miscellaneous,	15,150,675	12,223,862
Total,	\$144,052,586	\$127,905,115

The announcement was made on Monday that the Mechanics' National Bank of Newark, New Jersey, had closed its doors, being insolvent, on account of the use of its funds by the cashier to the amount of two millions of dollars. The news had an unfavorable effect on stocks, but, being followed by no other financial disasters, there was no serious injury to general business interests. It had a capital of \$500,000 and a surplus of \$400,000, with deposits of \$2,417,215.96.

A dividend of four per cent., for the last six months, was declared by the Directors of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company on Tuesday.

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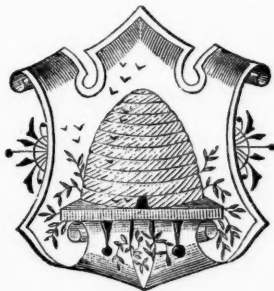
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Mr. A. W. Rand, No. 620 Arch Street.

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Very respectfully,

W. S. W. RUSCHENBERGER, M. D.,
No. 1932 Chestnut Street.

NEW YORK, October 25th, 1881.

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GENTLEMEN:—The Sewer Gas Cremator which you placed in the building Nos. 19 & 21 Nassau Street, has now been in use several months, and I am pleased to say is giving entire satisfaction. The disagreeable odor which pervaded the lower part of the building, and passing up the elevator shaft, frequently caused great annoyance to the tenants, appears to have been entirely removed, and we hear no further complaints. I can therefore recommend the use of your Cremator. By its action a continuous and regular flow of comparatively dry air is maintained throughout all the pipes connecting with the sewer, tending to dry them and to reduce the temperature to a point at which decomposition is very much or wholly prevented, and whatever impure air and gases are contained in the pipes are made to pass over a heated surface of sufficient extent to effectually destroy any living germs before they are allowed to escape into the air; added to this is the fact that the gases leave the Cremator at a temperature which tends to carry them far above the roof before diffusion through the surrounding atmosphere. These points give your system of ventilation a decided and important advantage over that adopted by the Board of Health, which, although it may protect the inmates of the house to which it is applied, exposes all surrounding property having a higher elevation to whatever disease-breeding elements the escaping gases may contain. The considerations I have named will, I think and trust, lead to a very general adoption of your useful invention.

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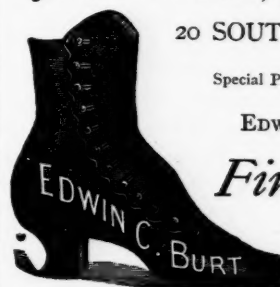
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The fashions for this fall are generally characterized by neatness
in designs of goods as well as cut of garments.

THE DRESS COAT—Is cut a little shorter and narrower in
the skirt than formerly.

THE D. B. FROCK COAT—Is made to button quite high, with
four buttons, showing a neat turnover, frequently faced with silk.

FOR EVENING WEAR—The coat and vest are made of black
or dark olive diagonal, with dark striped trousers, while for morn-
ing wedding, and day wear, a dark blue is chosen, with gray trou-
sers.

THE S. B. WALKING COAT—Is generally worn, both skirt and
waist being of medium length, and the coat being rather close-fit-
ting all over and buttoning high. If designed for dressy wear, the
coat buttons with one button; if for business wear, a four-button
coat is generally preferred, with false flaps on the side.

THE SACK COAT—Is in favor for rough and Scotch goods,
and is cut rather short and snug-fitting.

FANCY VESTS—Are again coming into favor in London and
New York. There is a tendency to cut vests a little lower than
last season, and with collars.

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